

ABSTRACT

In accordance with the present invention, there are provided methods for enhancing the color of gemstone(s) by subjecting a combination of a gemstone and at least one finely divided form of a selected treating agent ^{including the element copper} to a temperature in the range of about 700° C. up to about 1000° C., for a time period in the range of about 3 hours up to about 600 hours, under conditions suitable to enhance the color of the gemstone, wherein the treating agent consists of a finely divided form of ^{the} ~~a~~ selected treating agent, ^{such as copper metal or copper oxide} and wherein said gemstone is topaz or sapphire and the enhanced color lies in the color spectrum of light yellow to red.